

Grazing Revenue

Indicator: Grazing Revenue received in Fiscal Year 1999, by county. This indicator includes receipts collected for all grazing activity on BLM land. The values presented are sums of Fund 715 (Receipts, Grazing etc., Outside Grazing Districts), Fund 720 (Receipts, Grazing etc., Within Grazing Districts), and Fund 725 (Receipts, Grazing etc., Misc.). These funds are reported monthly by the office that collects the revenue, which can vary throughout BLM.

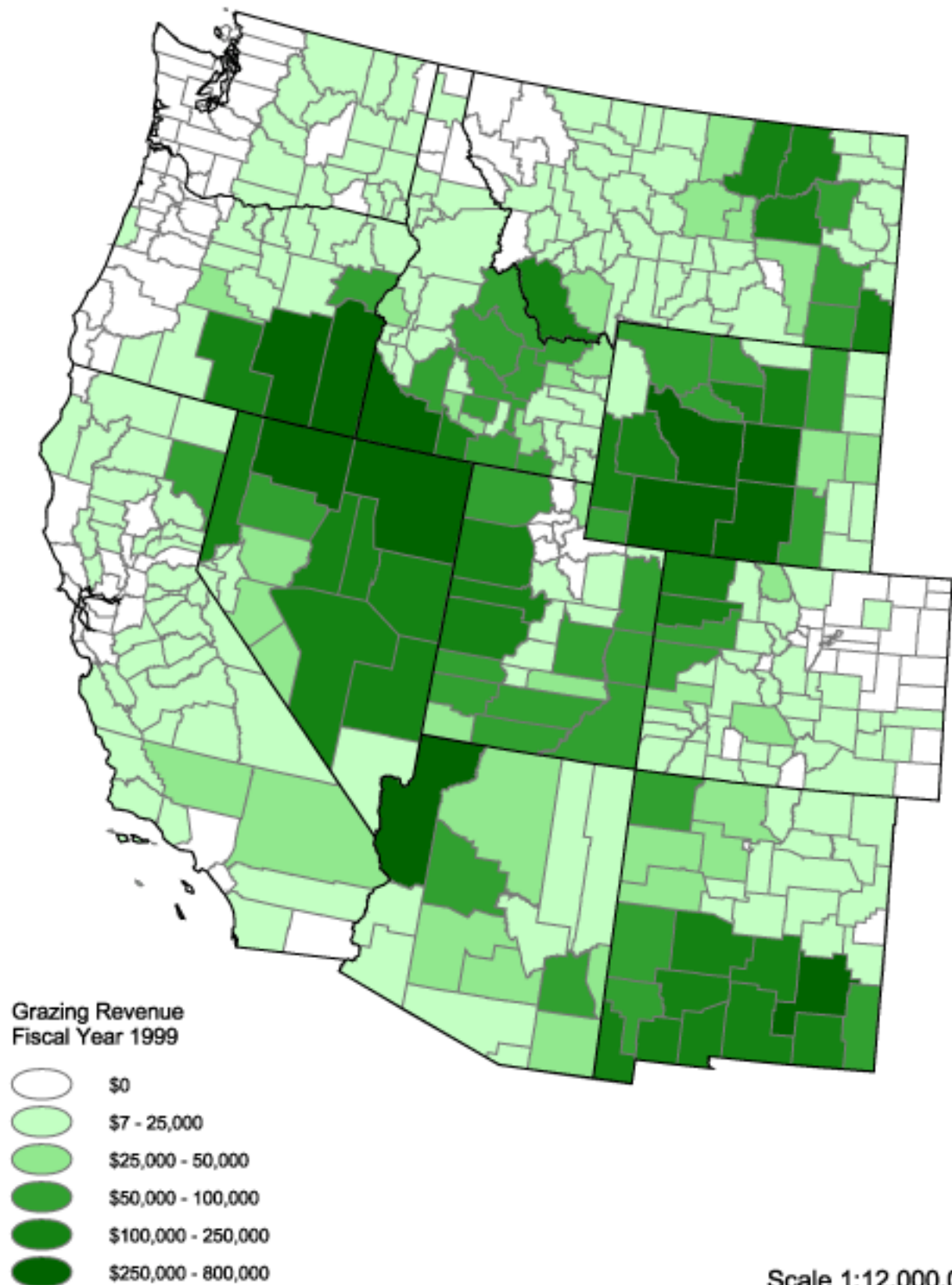
Key Findings: Grazing revenues are found to be highest in those counties with the highest concentrations of BLM land. Most notable are areas in northern Nevada, southeastern Oregon, southwestern Idaho, southwestern Wyoming, and southeastern New Mexico. These areas are characterized by relatively low population density and low per capita income. Interestingly, none of the high revenue areas coincide with farming dependent economies. While the BLM grazing program does not appear to be a big revenue generator, it does appear from this analysis to be important in areas that are very rural and generally not economically vibrant. Socioeconomic considerations in making land management decisions may prove to be crucial to the livelihood of people living in these areas.

Limitations: These data, based on 8100 and 8200 Range Improvement Funds, are considered to be very good, and can be readily updated. This analysis does not provide a good indicator of intensity of grazing on BLM lands and should not be viewed as such. This analysis requires a more accurate land status data layer to “normalize” the revenue for amount of BLM lands. This would provide a direct indicator of grazing intensity per acre of BLM land. Initial attempts to conduct such an analysis, using available land status data, proved highly inaccurate and misleading.

Source: Bureau of Land Management, National Business Center.

Comments: Grazing is a high-emphasis program on BLM lands. It can be viewed as both a consumptive use and a management tool. Negative impacts from improper management can include soil erosion, water quality degradation, reduced forage for wildlife, and increased invasive weed species. When used appropriately as a management tool, it can provide economic benefits to the human population while enhancing natural ecosystems. Most western ecosystems evolved with wildlife grazing. When carefully managed, cattle and sheep grazing can perform the same required evolutionary function.

Grazing Revenue



[NEXT MESSAGE >>](#)

[RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)